



WEEK ENDING JULY 12, 2013

OPP Weekly Activity Report

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ANTIMICROBIALS DIVISION

PPDC 21st Century Toxicology Workshop: On July 9, 2013, the PPDC 21st Century Toxicology / New Integrated Testing Strategies Workgroup hosted a workshop entitled “*Where Vision Meets Action: Practical Application of 21st Century Methods.*” This one-day, non-technical workshop was intended to provide an opportunity to dialogue with stakeholders on how OPP envisions applying new science to change the way we evaluate the risks of pesticides, and to examine the challenges and benefits of making this transition. The goals of the meeting included (1) exploration of the regulatory application of alternative 21st Century methods to transition away from traditional chemical testing approaches, (2) examination of the challenges of making this transition, and (3) discussion of confidence building in these alternative methods in the support of pesticide registrations. This workshop builds on the 2010 workshop on the Office of Pesticide Program’s strategic vision and application of 21st Century science to improve and transform pesticide risk management by enhancing our ability to use integrated approaches to testing and assessment (IATA). More information on the workshop including the agenda and presentations can be found on the workgroup website at <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/ppdc/testing/index.html> (Jennifer McLain, AD, 308-0293; Garland Waleko, PRD, 308-8049)

PESTICIDE RE-EVALUATION DIVISION

OPP Meets with California Stakeholder regarding Pesticide Impacts to Urban Water Quality. PRD and EFED met with Dave Tamayo of the County of Sacramento, California Department of Water Resources to discuss water quality issues in urban and suburban environments. The California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) and Cal EPA’s State Water Resources Control Board are frequent commenters on PRD’s registration review work plans. The California water organizations would like to see greater uniformity across OPP in considering pesticide impacts to urban/suburban waters. Mr. Tamayo presented his thoughts regarding OPP’s assessment of pesticide impacts to urban waters. EFED talked about the design parameters used in the program’s aquatic exposure models. OPP is interested in working with stakeholders to improve models for pesticide runoff in urban settings. (Katie Weyrauch, 308-0166; Tracy Perry, 308-0128; and Marqueea King, 305-7432)

Isoxaben Team Gathers to Launch Risk Assessment. On Wednesday, July 10, 2013, the full isoxaben registration review team convened to discuss the preliminary risk assessment, which will be developed in the coming year and published for comment in September 2014. In the next few weeks, the team will be confirming the status of submitted studies, sharing the most recent risk assessments, and updating screening level use information. A check in team meeting will be held in early 2014. Isoxaben is a broad spectrum pre-emergent

herbicide used to control broadleaf weeds, grasses, and vines. It was first registered by EPA in 1989, and was therefore not subject to EPA's reregistration of older pesticides. Isoxaben is used around non-bearing food crops, ornamental trees, and shrubs in agriculture nurseries, rights-of-way, and urban areas. The first food uses of isoxaben on bearing nut trees and grape vineyards were registered in November 2010. (Christina Scheltema, 703-308-2201)

FIELD & EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

Chapter 13 of the Label Review Manual Revised and Updated. The Labeling Consistency Committee has completed editing revisions and updating the Label Review Manual's Chapter 13, which deals with storage and disposal statements on labels. ITRMD's Web Team posted the revised chapter on July 9. The agency collected comments from the public as well as state regulators on a January 2012 version. There were 41 public comments and recommendations, primarily from the pesticide industry, and 25 comments from state pesticide regulators. Nearly 50 changes were made in response to comments received, often by providing more detailed explanations of the basis for the revised requirements put into regulation by the 2006 "container-containment" rule and subsequent PR Notices. There are 4 remaining chapters (out of 18) to be edited before this phase of updating the LRM is complete. (Jim Roelofs, 308-2964)

BIOLOGICAL & ECONOMIC ANALYSIS DIVISION

BSAT Coordination Conference Call. The members of the Biological Select Agent and Toxins (BSAT) committee met via conference call on July 10th to discuss the joint inspection schedule and training and outreach. Marsha Ray of CDC reported out on joint inspections being coordinated by the CDC with the Department of Homeland Security and Department of the Army. EPA expressed interest in participating in the October inspection at the Edgewood Chemical and Biological Command (ECBC) in Aberdeen, Maryland. Bob Rice of USDA reported out on joint inspections being coordinated through USDA. Denise Gangardharan provided an overview of the results of the survey taken at the interagency Select Agent training that was held in April. Several EPA scientists and managers participated in the training. In general the participants felt that the training was adequate but would like more interactive sessions and case studies. CDC is soliciting feedback on any issues that organizations have encountered with implementing the new regulations issued in April 2013. It was noted that the Journal of Biosecurity and Bioterrorism has published several articles on aspects of the Select Agent program, most notably on training programs and establishment of a personnel reliability program. (Susan Lawrence, 410-305-2954)

BEAD Meets RD and Florida Representatives on Bacterial Resistance Monitoring Protocol for Streptomycin Sulfate on Grapefruit.

A 2013 emergency exemption was granted to FL for the use of streptomycin to control bacterial canker on grapefruit. The exemption was conditional on monitoring for bacterial resistance to streptomycin. FL requested a discussion on the monitoring methodology and the data needed to renew the emergency exemption for 2014. The discussion covered: (1) sampling foliage, fruit and soils, prior to and following streptomycin application, to catalogue bacterial genera and their susceptibility to streptomycin; and (2) antibiotic cross-resistance in bacteria against streptomycin and other human-use aminoglycoside antibiotics (e.g., gentamicin and tobramycin). FL researchers will follow up with RD and BEAD after contacting Dr. George Sundin, a Michigan researcher, who conducted similar monitoring for kasugamycin used against fire blight in MI apples. FL will also test the efficacy of Regalia, a registered alternative, because previous results were inconclusive. (Tara Chandgoyal, 308-8157)

BEAD Briefs OGC on Processing of Percent Crop Treated (PCT) Data. BEAD provided OGC an overview of the process for developing PCT data for use in dietary risk assessment. PCT, the ratio of base acres treated to acres planted or grown, expressed as a percentage, helps evaluate exposure to residues in food use crops already registered as well as new food use crops. Jihad Alsadek of BEAD presented the PCT for existing uses as found in the Screening Level Usage Analysis (SLUA) and Cynthia Doucoure of BEAD presented the PCT for new uses (PCTn). BEAD addressed many of the questions posed by OGC's Angela Huskey, Andrea Medici, and Steve Anderson; however, there were some questions that we indicated were better directed to HED such as the process by which HED decides which crops needs PCT data and the conditions for requesting updated PCT data. (Cynthia Doucoure, 308-8133 and Jihad Alsadek, 308-8140)

Field Trip to Observe Herbicide Trials and Pesticide Spray Technology

Demonstration BEAD was joined by RD, EFED, HED, BPPD and PRD on June 28th at a field discussion of herbicide trials and pesticide spray technology at a University of Maryland field site near Laurel, MD. Dr. Ron Ritter of the University of MD provided an overview of herbicide trials currently underway at the facility. He discussed his field work and emphasized the importance of using herbicides with multiple mechanisms of action to control and reduce the development of herbicide-resistant weeds. The field visit was followed by a detailed presentation by Dr. Bob Wolf, retired professor of agricultural engineering at Kansas State University. Dr. Wolf's talk included a laboratory-like demonstration of spray quality and droplet size and a discussion of the complex interrelationship between spray equipment, droplet size, and pesticide efficacy. (Bill Phillips, 308-8099 and Skee Jones, 305-7416)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & RESOURCES MANAGEMENT DIVISION

FY 2012-2015 Registration Review Schedule Updated - The OPP ITRMD Web Team worked with PRD to publish the updated FY2012-FY2015 Conventional, Antimicrobial, Biochemical and Microbial cases schedule on the Pesticides Website. The Schedule Summary and Changes to the Registration Review Schedule are also included in this update. For more information, please visit the Registration Review Schedule web page at http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/registration_review/schedule.htm (Miriam Organic, 703-605-0583)

Quarterly Posting of Registration Review Dockets Opening for Comment in Chemical Search - The ITRMD Web Team worked with Carol Stangel (PRD) to post the quarterly FR notices announcing a group of registration review dockets opening for review and comment in Chemical Search. The comment period closes on August 26, 2013 and the list of pesticides is available in the docket [EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0220-0001](http://www.epa.gov/epahq/opp-2013-0220-0001). (Miriam Organic, 703-605-0583)

Update to the Microbiology Laboratory Antimicrobial Testing Methods and Procedures Site - The ITRMD Web Team worked with BEAD to update one of the SOP Methods on the site. The SOP that was updated is MB-11-04: Neutralization Confirmation Assay for Disinfectant Products Tested against *Mycobacterium bovis* (BCG). For more information please visit: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/methods/atmpa2z.htm>. (Carol Cotton, 305-5082)

OPP FOIA Request Status Report – June 24 –July 5, 2013							
Requests Received		Requests Closed			Requests Open		
FY13	This Week	FY13	FYTD	This Week	FY13	Prior Years	Total
396	26	211	302	11	185	117	302

(Ana Espinoza, 703-347-0102)

ENVIRONMENTAL FATE & EFFECTS DIVISION

Honey Bee Larvae Acute Toxicity Testing. On July 3, EFED science staff met with researchers at the University of Maryland's Wye Research & Education Center in Queenstown, MD and Wildlife International Inc. in Easton, MD. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the challenges associated with toxicity testing of honey bee larvae. EFED staff also had an opportunity to experience first-

hand transferring and feeding of larval bees in a laboratory setting. (Christina Wendel, 703-347-8066; Joe Decant, 703-347-8063).

Conversations with a Beekeeper Webinar. On the evening of July 9, EFED staff presented a webinar on OPP's risk assessment process for honey bees to the American Beekeeping Federation (ABF). This is the second of four webinars to be presented by EFED to the ABF as part of a series entitled "*Conversations with a Beekeeper*." Questions from the audience included who pays for toxicity testing, how toxicity tests account for the multiple factors affecting pollinator declines, and the use of simulation models for estimating effects of pesticides on honey bees. (Kris Garber, 703-347-8940; Tom Steeger, 703-305-5444).

HEALTH EFFECTS DIVISION

OECD National Coordinator Meeting: Christine Olinger, the US National Coordinator for the OECD Test Guideline Program, met with Kristie Sullivan, the Secretariat for the International Council on Animal Protection in OECD Programmes (ICAPO). Ongoing OECD projects involving reduction or elimination on the use of laboratory animals were discussed, as well as their plans to submit an Adverse Outcome Pathway (AOP) proposal for the OECD AOP database. (Chris Olinger 305-5406)

Modified Cancer Testing Methods: Seminar on 7/16/13: Dr. Charles Wood, DVM, Ph.D., will present the subject seminar to OPP staff on 7/16/13, room 10100, noon-1:00 pm. Dr. Wood is a Research Biologist/Pathologist in the Integrated Systems Toxicology Division of the National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, Office of Research and Development. His current research interests relate broadly to cancer risk modeling and prevention. Recent work includes short-term modeling strategies for cancer and other adverse health outcomes. In this seminar he will discuss alternative models to conventional carcinogenicity testing and present analyses from the USEPA ToxRef database applying these alternative models to pesticides. (Charles Wood, (919) 541-1171; Mike Metzger, 305-5883)

BIOPESTICIDES & POLLUTION PREVENTION DIVISION

Reg. Review Final Work Plan for Phosphoric Acid and its Salts Placed in Docket. On June 28, the Registration Review Final Work Plan for Phosphoric Acid and its Salts was signed and placed in public docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0672. The Final Work Plan includes the expected registration review timeline and a summary which addresses any public comments received on the Preliminary Work Plan. Through the Registration Review program, the Agency periodically re-evaluates pesticides to make sure that as change occurs, products in the marketplace can be used safely. (Menyon Adams, 347-8496)

New Biochemical AI Approved for use as Plant Growth Regulator. On July 9, BPPD's Biochemical Pesticides Branch registered the new biochemical active ingredient Complex Polymeric Polyhydroxy Acids (CPPA). A manufacturing use product and an end-use product, which contain CPPA at 0.9% and 0.18%, respectively, were registered. The proposed end-use product is intended for use as a plant growth regulator on field and greenhouse crops, fruits, nuts, vines, and ornamentals. CPPA is derived from naturally occurring organic matter in soils as well as ground and surface waters. An exemption from the requirement of a tolerance has been established in tandem with this product registration. Documents supporting this action are available at www.regulations.gov in docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2009-0917. (Menyon Adams, 347-8496)

BPPD Meets with National Pest Management Association. On July 10, BPPD met at Potomac Yard South with leadership from the National Pest Management Association (NPMA). NPMA is a non-profit organization with over 7,000 members from the pest management industry. Additionally, NPMA is a gold-level member of the EPA's Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program. Items discussed include future collaborations, specifically around school IPM and "green" initiatives. (Lee Tanner, 305-5836; Lorry Frigerio, 605-0654)

BPPD Chairs Session at PPDC, Makes Project Recommendation. On July 10, BPPD Director Bob McNally chaired Session III of the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC) meeting. The session focused on Integrated Pest Management and included workgroup updates as well as information on EPA's recently established Center of Expertise for School IPM. On July 11 during the PPDC Work Group on Public Health, BPPD ESB Chief Frank Ellis presented a proposed recommendation for a school IPM pilot project in partnership with key state organizations. The pilot project would include the development of various work products to promote an increased level of IPM adoption by schools/school districts. Next steps include further development of concept within the PPDC IPM work group, outreach to states, and outlining of project deliverables. (Frank Ellis, 308-8107; Bob McNally, 308-8085)

IMMEDIATE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Meeting of the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee Held July 10-11, 2013

EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs held a public meeting of the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC) on July 10-11. The agenda and presentations are being posted on the PPDC Web page at <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/ppdc/>. (Margie Fehrenbach 703 308-4775)